

## CONNECTICUT CONSTRUCTION LABOR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL:

### ***PLEASE OPPOSE EFFORTS TO WEAKEN THE PREVAILING WAGE LAW***

CCLMC, a not for profit labor-management organization, provides a range of initiatives which foster effective labor-management cooperation in the state's construction industry. On behalf of the CCLMC membership, we urge all state legislators to oppose efforts to weaken the state's prevailing wage law. Here's why:

**FACT:** Connecticut's prevailing wage law is the instrument by which over 60,000 Connecticut construction workers sustain and grow the standard of living for themselves, their families, and their communities. Connecticut's prevailing wage law is an important contributor to the economic vitality and quality of life in local communities throughout the state.

*"Workers like me who are earning the prevailing wage become contributors to the local economies. We are the people who will spend our earning at the local supermarkets, auto dealerships, restaurants and retail stores."*

- Joe Campoli, Local 478  
Operating Engineers

**FACT:** The assertion that repealing the prevailing wage would result in a 30 percent savings in construction costs is not supported by the facts. Expert studies from across the United States, repeatedly confirm that efforts to weaken prevailing wage laws result in no measurable savings for public construction projects. The resultant revenue loss from the lower personal income and sales taxes create a net negative financial impact on the state.

*"Considering the nature of the public bidding process and the small portion of total expenditures (4 to 7%) estimated as the cost of continuing prevailing wage in Connecticut, the committee recommended the continuing of the prevailing wage law."*

- Program Review & Investigations Committee, 1996

*"There is no effect on total school construction costs associated with the prevailing wage."*

- A Comparison of Public School  
Construction Costs  
Peter Philips, 2001

**FACT:** Weakening the prevailing wage law is extremely shortsighted public policy. Changing the prevailing wage would exacerbate the state's growing healthcare coverage crisis; reverse the gains made in worker safety over the last 25 years; jeopardize training and apprenticeship programs; and threaten to compromise the quality workmanship of public construction projects.

*"I chose to join Local 777 because of the opportunity to earn the prevailing wage, enroll in a family health plan, and work with a group of individuals who make job safety a priority."*

**- Fiona Thomas, Local 777  
Plumbers & Pipefitters**

**On behalf of the Connecticut Construction Labor Management Council,  
please block efforts to weaken the state's prevailing wage law – thousands  
of dedicated, hardworking construction workers  
in Connecticut depend on it.**